

CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

OCTOBER, 2005

Date: October 4, 2005

Members Present: Leonard Janiga, Chairman
Ralph Burch, Jr., Co-Chairman
Warren Cullen, Sr.
Jim Heinrich
Diane Fronczek
Roger Gustavel, Alternate

Members Absent: Dave Muench
Bud Pearce

Town Board: Warren Handley

Guests: Harold Keppner, Army Corps of Engineers
John Fronczek, CEO-Building Dept.

Leonard Janiga, Chairman, opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m. An addition to the minutes of September, 2005 was added as follows: in the latter part of the first paragraph, near the bottom, please change wording as follows: "It was also decided by the motion presented by Jim Heinrich, seconded by Ralph Burch, that future minutes need to be sent to all the members of the CAB for comment if any and requires the approval of the Chairman or Co-Chairman before distribution", etc. Jim Heinrich made a motion, seconded by Ralph Burch to accept the amended minutes. All in favor--6 ayes. In addition, Roger Gustavel did not have the authority to second a motion, as he is an alternate. This was strictly an over site on the board's part and not meant to infringe on his role in the CAB.

New Business:

Leonard Janiga introduced Harold Keppner from the Army Corps of Engineers to the board. Harold is a biologist for the Corps, and his work entails enforcement of rules from the Corps as to regulations of water and wetlands in a wide jurisdiction. He provided many useful handouts to the board to explain what the Corps regulates and why. The Corps and the DEC have different maps of the area, and he

suggested that anyone building, and having suspicions about the possibility of wetlands and creeks located on their property, to check with both agencies before building. Harold supplied the following definition of a wetland; "Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions." An Army Corps permit is required "for activities which involve a discharge of dredged or fill material into a navigable water of the U.S., and for any structure or work that takes place in, under, or over a navigable water, or wetlands adjacent to navigable waters." Harold's advice to home builders is to **DO YOUR HOMEWORK**. Plan ahead and allow sufficient time (3-4 months) for regulatory review, and to schedule a pre-application meeting. It is also advised to consult any and all available resources such as maps, or the local county Soil and Water Conservation District or Federal USDA-Natural Resources Cons. Service, and lastly check with the Building Department.

Leonard Janiga commented that after talking with a representative of the DEC, they stated that they have too few people working and are not able to accept an invitation to meet with the CAB, but invited anyone interested to call for a meeting at their Buffalo location. Leonard was able to obtain some printed material on wetlands that signifies regulations, and showing when you need to obtain a permit.

Ralph Burch made a motion, seconded by Jim Heinrich to adjourn the meeting. All in favor--6 ayes. We were adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting will be Nov. 1, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Fronczek, Recording Clerk